

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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DP/PROJECTS/7195

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF NIGER

IPF:(1987-91) \$37 326 500

(NER/90/016) - Aménagement des forêts classées et gestion de terroirs villageois
dans le Sud du Département de Maradi

Date of approval by the AC:^{1/}
Expected duration:
Proposed executing agency:
Government implementing agency:
Proposed UNDP contribution:

18 December 1991
Thirty nine months
FAO
Ministry of Water Works and Environment
\$2 128 500 Source of funds: IPF

Project background

The Southern region (two Districts: Madarounfa and Aguié) of the Department of Maradi on which the above-mentioned project will focus, is situated in the Sudano-Sahelian belt of Niger with an average rainfall of between 350-450 mm; population density is about 54 habitants/km², with 85 per cent of the population being farmers and approximately 8-10 per cent nomads. Agricultural production consists of millet, sorghum, peanuts, beans and cotton. The Department (38 500 km²) has 131 867 hectares of forestry zone of which 22 800 are state protected (forêts classées). In normal years the Department has a surplus in food production. However, increasing population pressure (approx. three per cent) is leading to soil degradation and overexploitation of the forestry resources for fuelwood.

The Government in conformity with the national plan to combat desertification (1985), the Economic and Social Development Plan and the Three-Year Perspective Plan (1990-1993) privileges a comprehensive approach to rural area development to restore/maintain an ecological balance with the active participation of the population. Reforestation and management of the national forests are important components of this strategy. Several projects have been undertaken or are undertaking activities which address components of this strategy (CARE, UNSO, Switzerland). UNDP/FAO has undertaken under the project (NER/85/009), development actions in the forestry sector of which the most important are training of national personnel in forestry techniques and participatory approach; establishment of windbreaks (277 km.) in the two Districts (Madarounfa and Aguié) and protection of watershed areas (21,5 km); socio-economic studies; preparation of management plans of four protected forest zones (30,000 hectares) and a pilot project (500 hectares); creation of nurseries (78); reforestation around villages (37); restoration of fallow grounds; and regeneration of Acacia Albida trees.

^{1/} This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

An evaluation which took place in November 1990 has recommended to build on the results obtained and to assure the full participation of the population in forest and land management. UNDP assistance was requested to draw on the lessons of the past, take into account previous experiences in Niger to assure the interest and participation of the rural population of the area, as well as specific actions undertaken in the area by other donors, i.e.: (i) Swiss and Evangelic Church: well building project; (ii) Peace Corps: volunteers for extension services; (iii) AFVP: improved stoves; and (iv) Care-DANIDA-UNSO: Agro-forestry.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) design and implement a programme of the restoration of agricultural land of 27 villages bordering three protected forest areas (the success criteria are the availability of a soil conservation and an agroforestry programme accepted and carried out by the population concerned); (b) restore and manage three protected forests of Dam Kado Dodo (6,800 hectares), of Dan Gado (4,742 hectares) and Kandamao (4,900 hectares) with participation of the neighbouring population (the success criteria are the restoration of the protected forests of which actually 28 to 40 per cent are deforested, with 500 hectares being restored under the project NER/85/009); and (c) train personnel of the national forestry and environment services through on-the-job training: seminars, short upgrading programmes in neighbouring Burkina Faso and scholarships for training in Agroforestry Institute in Niger and/or Mali.

Inputs

UNDP will provide a CTA/specialist in agroforestry and land management (39 work-months), a specialist in extensions services (33 work-months), a UNV administrator (36 work-months), consultants (nine work-months); support personnel; eight extension service workers (288 work-months); training (scholarship study-tours and on-the-job training); equipment (consumable), and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

	\$
Personnel	1 239 500
Training	270 000
Equipment	300 000
Miscellaneous	<u>319 000</u>
Total	<u>2 128 500</u>